UNITED STATES OF AMERICA POSTAL RATE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Experimental Presorted Priority Mail Rate Categories, 2001

Docket No. MC2001-1

PRESIDING OFFICER'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 1

(Issued April 18, 2001)

United States Postal Service is requested to provide the information described below to assist in developing a record for the consideration of its request. In order to facilitate inclusion of the requested material in the evidentiary record, the Postal Service is to have a witness attest to the accuracy of the answers and be prepared to explain to the extent necessary the basis for the answers at our hearings. The answers are to be provided within 14 days.

- 1. Footnote 2 of USPS-T-1 states, "An outside is a mail piece that does not fit in a Priority Mail sack, weighs over 35 pounds, or contains live animals." For each of these types of outsides please provide a narrative description of how articles will be presorted, how the presorted outsides will be handled by the Postal Service, and how this handling will save the Service money.
- 2. On page 3 of USPS-T-1 the minimum quantity per mailing is given as 300 pieces. Does the 300 piece minimum apply to each rate category or to the overall mailing? For example, could a mailer mail 100 pieces to the 5-Digit level, 100 pieces to the 3-Digit level and 100 pieces to the ADC level? If so, is there a minimum number of pieces per rate category?

3. Recognizing that witness Scherer has indicated that containerization and make-up requirements have not yet been finalized (OCA/USPS-T1-4), is there a minimum number of pieces per sack or pounds per container in order to qualify for the presort discount? What factors will be evaluated to develop final minimums.

George Omas